



B O R O U G H   o f   W A R E H A M

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
and the  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for the Year  
1972

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## FOREWORD

Health Centre,  
Streche Road,  
Wareham, Dorset.

To the Mayor Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Wareham.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my ninth annual report on the state of the public health in the Borough of Wareham. This report covers the calendar year 1972. Those sections of the report concerning sanitary conditions have been prepared by the Public Health Inspector.

With the implementation of the re-organisation of the National Health Service at the same time as the Local Government re-organisation the post of medical officer of health will disappear from all authorities at the end of March 1974. As vital statistics are not available from the Registrar General before the first of April in any year, this should be the last of the annual reports compiled by your medical officer of health. Advice on health to district authorities will be available from the community physician at the district hospital serving the health district.

The appointment of medical officer of health of local authorities was made compulsory in 1872. Part-time officers were appointed in the first place, but later full-time medical officers of health with responsibilities to more than one authority. Dr. A.M. Cunningham was the last part-time medical officer of health for the Borough. The first full-time medical officer of health, Dr. K.N. Mawson, was appointed in 1938, followed by Dr. E.J. O'Keeffe from 1939 to 1964. Whilst the statutory duties of the office will be carried out by officers of other authorities, I feel that the responsibility of "watch dog" for the community in respect of health matters will never be replaced. Even if community physicians at district hospitals were saddled with that task, they will be too remote for the ordinary person to know how to approach them or for them to know the districts in detail.

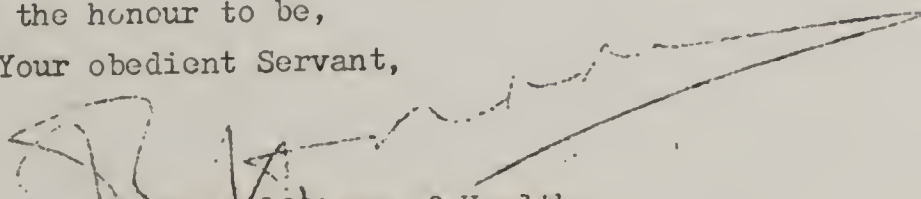
There was no serious outbreak of infectious disease during 1972. Four cases of infective hepatitis were notified but no contact between the cases could be found.

The number of live births exceeded deaths by 14. The population figures for the Borough have always been too small for statistical purposes. With the amalgamation of the three Districts to form the Purbeck District, the statistics in future may mean something.

The number of applicants on the housing list has increased during 1972. It is impossible to recommend to young couples that they should save for a mortgage. A few years ago this was possible. Considerably more rehousing is required otherwise many persons' health, both physical and mental, will be affected. Priority should be given to building small units of accommodation available for young or old couples.

I am most grateful to Members of the Council and to my fellow officers, especially Mr. J.R. Tanner, for their helpful co-operation.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

October 1973.

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

### Medical Officer of Health

W. E. HADDEN, O.St.J., M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., D.T.M. & H., D.A., D.P.H.

### Public Health Inspector

J.R. TANNER, M.A.P.H.I.

### Technical Assistant

B. A. GALE

The Medical Officer of Health holds in addition the following appointments, Medical Officer of Health to the Swanage Urban District Council and to the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District Council, Senior County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer, Dorset County Council.

Office accommodation and clerical assistance are provided for the Medical Officer of Health jointly by the Authorities concerned.

The Public Health Inspector, in addition to his statutory duties, is also the Borough Surveyor.

The Committees of the Council concerned with matters of public health are the General Purposes Committee, the Roads and Sewers Committee and the Housing Committee.

### Note: Area Comparability Factors - (Vital Statistics)

The area comparability factors for birth and death rates included in this report are supplied by the Registrar General. They make allowances for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole. In addition, the death comparability factor has been adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institution in the area. When the local crude birth and death rates are multiplied by the appropriate area comparability factor they are comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the Borough	...	...	...	710 acres
Population	...	at Census 1971	...	4,379
	as estimated by Registrar General mid 1971	...	...	4,440
	as estimated by Registrar General mid 1972	...	...	4,580
Total number of inhabited houses - at end of 1972	...	...	...	1,519
Total rateable value at 1st April, 1972	...	...	...	£198,500
Sum represented by a Penny Rate for the year ending 31st March 1972	...	...	...	£1,912.81

## VITAL STATISTICS

Area comparability factors - Births 0.97 Deaths 0.77

				Comparative Rates	
				Wareham Borough	England & Wales
Live Births		Total	Male Female		
Total registered	...	85	43 42		
Legitimate	...	83	41 42		
Illegitimate	...	2	2 -		
Rate per 1000 population - crude	18.6			18.0	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate				1.22	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births				2	9
Still Births		Total	Male Female		
Total registered	...	1	1 -		
Legitimate	...	1	1 -		
Illegitimate	...	-	- -		
Rate per 1000 total live and still births				12	12
Deaths		Total	Male Female		
Total registered	...	71	35 36		
Rate per 1000 population - crude	15.5			11.9	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate				0.99	1.00
Infant Deaths (under 1 year)		Total	Male Female		
Total registered	...	2	1 1		
Legitimate	...	2	1 1		
Illegitimate	...	-	- -		
Infant Mortality Rate (deaths under one year per 1000 total live births)				24	17
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)				24	12
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births)				24	10
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births)				35	22
Maternal mortality (including abortion)					
Number of deaths	...		Nil		

Cause of Death	Sex	TOTAL ALL AGES	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS										75 & Over
					1 -	5 -	15 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -			
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other malignant neoplasms	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Multiple sclerosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Other diseases of nervous system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Hypertensive disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ischaemic heart disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
Other forms of heart disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cerebrovascular disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Bronchitis and emphysema	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life During 1972 - continued

Cause of Death	Sex	TOTAL ALL AGES	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN Y L R S										75 & Over
					1 -	5 -	15 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -			
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
Cirrhosis of liver	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Other diseases of digestive system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Congenital anomalies	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
	F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
All other accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Total all Causes	M	35	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	6	11	12		
	F	36	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	6	22		



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

On the 1st April, 1969, the Poole and East Dorset Water Board, which had been formed in 1960, combined with the West Dorset Water Board to form the Dorset Water Board which now controls the supply of water to the Borough.

The Worgret Waterworks which, prior to 1960, belonged to the Council, obtains its supply from a shallow well with a high iron content. Most of the Borough is supplied with Worgret water, but parts are supplied with "Poole" water from Sturminster Marshall and/or Corfe Mullen. The water from Corfe Mullen is softened but that from Sturminster Marshall is not. The Borough can also be supplied from Briantspuddle and Milborne St. Andrew via a main laid from Gallows Hill to Worgret.

The water supply from Worgret has caused for many years complaints about discolouration of clothes whilst being washed due to iron in the water and deposited in the pipes. This has been improved during the year by the use of a small continuous dose of a chemical inhibitor known as "Calygon" together with the "swabbing" of most of the mains in the town. The swabs used were of a new type consisting of expanded polystyrene plugs with metal studs. Large amounts of iron oxide deposit were removed from  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles of mains by this method. The swabbing was carried out at night by the Dorset Water Board to minimise inconvenience to consumers. The good results have been appreciated by the inhabitants concerned.

#### Source and Treatment Applied

<u>Source</u>	<u>Type of Source</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Treatment Applied</u>
Worgret	Well	30 ft.	Iron removal and pH correction, pressure filtration and chlorination. Chemical inhibitor also used now.
Corfe Mullen	Well & Borehole	170 ft.	Softening, rapid gravity filtration, chlorination and post ammoniation.
Sturminster Marshall	Well	280 ft.	Chlorination and post ammoniation.
Briantspuddle	Borehole	250 ft.	Chlorination.

#### Plumbo Solvency

Only the raw water from Worgret had any plumbo-solvency and that was corrected during the iron removal process continuously applied at the pumping station. Worgret pumping station was in use throughout the year.

#### Bacteriological Examination

Bacteriological examinations were made in the Board's Laboratory giving the following results:-



### Raw Water

Source	Total No. of Samples	E. Coli demonstrated	Max. Plate Count at 37°C per ml.
Briantspuddle	51	Nil	50
Worgret	51	Nil	10

### Treated Water

Source	Total No. of Samples	More than 10 Coliform per 100 ml.	More than 2 E. Coli per 100 ml.	1-2 E. Coli with 3 or more Coliform	Coliform in 100 ml. of 2 consecutive samples
Briantspuddle	42	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Worgret	51	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reservoir Samples	67	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

### Distributed Water from Consumers' Taps

Area of Supply	Total No. of Samples	More than 10 Coliform per 100 ml.	More than 2 E. Coli/100 ml.	1-2 E. Coli with 3 or more Coliform	Coliform in 100 ml. of 2 consecutive samples	Max. Plate count per ml 37°C
Wareham M.B.	51	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	10

Frequent checks of chlorine residual were made in the control of treatment plants and in supplies taken from mains and consumers' taps in the area.

The Public Health Inspector took 22 samples from consumers' taps for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Dorchester. All the samples were satisfactory.

# CHEMICAL ANALYSES

The following chemical analyses of sources of supply in the area have been supplied by the Dorset Water Board's Chemist -

Chemical results in milligrammes per litre.

Source	Briants- puddle	Worgret Raw Water	Worgret Treated Water
Date	21.8.72	15.8.72	28.12.72
Reaction, pH Value	7.1	5.9	7.2
Colour	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless
Equilibrium, pH <sub>5</sub>	7.1	6.4	7.2
Turbidity	2	11	4
Conductivity, micromhos/ cm <sup>3</sup> at 20°C	480	190	240
Taste	Pleasant	-	Pleasant
Odour	Odourless	Odourless	Odourless
Total Dissolved Solids (dried at 180°C)	325	180	240
Temporary Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (Carbonate)	210	6	-
Permanent Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (Non-Carbonate)	50	54	-
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (by EDTA)	260	60	102
Calcium Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (by EDTA)	250	46	83
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (by difference)	10	14	19
Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	240	26	57
Free Carbon Dioxide as CO <sub>2</sub>	38	64	8
Total Iron as Fe	Nil	1.8	0.1
Silica as SiO <sub>2</sub>	13.0	7.7	7.2
Nitrogen in Nitrates	3.8	0.3	0.2
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	< 0.01	0.08	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	< 0.01	0.06	0.01
Chlorine in Chlorides as Cl	18	24	32
Sulphates as SO <sub>4</sub>	13	26	52
Fluorides as F	0.1	0.2	0.2
Phosphates as PO <sub>4</sub>	0.14	< 0.05	2.2
Oxygen Absorbed (4 hrs at 37°C)	< 0.05	3.5	-
Sodium and Potassium	Na 15.5, K1.5	Na 16.0, K1.7	Na 16.0, K1.7

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewage from the Borough is pumped to the Joint Disposal Works at Sandford and which is managed by the adjoining Rural District Council. The system consists of three pumping stations at South Bestwall, North Bridge and Northport, with subsidiary stations at Drax Avenue and Carey Estate, serving the Northport/Drax Estates and Carey Estate respectively. The system functioned satisfactorily during the year. Some adjoining areas of the Rural District are pumped through the Borough system to the joint works. At the end of the year the Ridge/Stoborough areas were being connected.

Number of dwellings not connected to the sewer. (One of these has agreed to connect to the sewer).	-	10
Number of dwellings with pail closets	-	1
Number of dwellings with cesspools/septic tanks	-	9
Number of dwellings connected to the sewers during the year		12



## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

### Summary of Inspections

Bakehouses	5	Civic Amenities Act	2
Building Regulations	515	Housing Acts	58
Butchers Shops	7	Housing Repairs	918
Cafes/Restaurants	9	Public Conveniences	10
Caravan Sites	3	Public Health Acts	21
Pumping Stations (Sewage)	28	Petroleum Regulations	4
Food Premises	9	Refuse Collection/Disposal	6
Ice-cream Premises	2	Offices, Shops & Railway	
Food Hygiene Regulations	18	Premises	37
Pest Control	8	Water Samples	22
Pet Animals Act	2	Ice-Cream Samples	30
Children's Play Areas	4	Sewerage	7
Food Inspection	15	Town Walls	3
Meat Inspection	1	Road Drainage	9
Factories Act	5	Recreation Ground	14
Allotments	4	Miscellaneous	424
Milk and Dairies	1		

Total - 2201

### Statutory and Informal Notices (Other than premises under the Offices and Shops Act)

	<u>No. Served</u>	<u>Complied with</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
Informal	20	16	4
Statutory	Nil	Nil	Nil

### Caravan and Camping Sites

There are two caravan sites in the Borough; one is situated at the North Causeway where the lessee is permitted to station up to 44 caravans including 20 residential. The other site is situated off Sandford Lane near the Railway Hotel and is licensed for eight caravans. Both sites are licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. The larger site is provided with a sanitary block drained to a septic tank and filter, no main sewer being available. The smaller site is drained to the public sewer.

The Fire Prevention Officer visited both sites during the year and made various recommendations.

Caravan holidaymakers are regularly being asked to move on from the Streche Road Car Park. There is an urgent need for more sites in the Furbeck area for holidaymakers touring their own caravans.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council own one "Karrier" Bantan vehicle and one Dennis Paxit III C compression vehicle. House and trade collections are made. The collection is carried out in three days; the service works very well and few complaints are received. Special collections are still made of house refuse, without charge, with a view to discouraging illicit disposal on open and other areas. The container method for refuse other than that collected still works well and few complaints are received.

During the year the problem of the disposal of old cars did not arise and it is better for this to be carried out at main depots where the necessary equipment is available. One of the problems now of this service is the availability of heavy goods vehicle drivers.

### Street Cleansing

The main streets are cleansed daily and the minor streets on a rota system as labour will allow. The service is carried out well and few complaints are received. The service has been maintained on our present labour force, including the new estates. More litter receptacles have been provided and the town is comparatively free from litter. With re-organisation, probably, the machine may well come into its own, but the street orderly on the "beat" will take a lot of beating.

### Town Walls

Every effort was again made to keep these ancient walls in as tidy a condition as possible and the Borough is indebted to the County Surveyor for the hire of his hydra-mower for cutting the grass. The Council are asking the County Council to implement a "NO CYCLING" order for the Town Walls which should make it safer for pedestrians. The Borough is again indebted to the "Honorary Warden" for his interest and watchful eye over the Walls and for his reports submitted from time to time.

### Public Conveniences

There are two toilets in the town, one sited at The Quay and one at Howards Lane. They are both maintained in excellent condition by the attendant. The Council are now applying for a further block of toilets at Streche Road as this Car Park is being used more than ever.

### Swimming Baths

There are two swimming baths in the Borough, one at the County Modern School and the other at the new Junior School. These are used by the pupils. Bathing takes place in the two rivers at various points. No evidence of disease has been attributed to swimming in the river and there have been no complaints. There are high degrees of dilution due to the flows. There are now proposals, linked with the Upper School project, for a heated indoor swimming pool.

### Smoke Abatement and Clean Air Act, 1956.

During the year complaints were received of the escape of cement dust from a silo used in a concrete products factory; this had been the subject of complaint on previous occasions. The Company further experimented by filtering out the dust at ground level and this has resulted in a further reduction of the amount of cement dust escaping from the works. Observations are, however, made from time to time. The occasional complaint of fumes from a kitchen and smoke from bonfires in a garden were received and dealt with as considered necessary.

### Petroleum Regulations and Acts

Nine licences are in force for the storage of petroleum spirit. Visits are made from time to time. No complaints were received.

### Disinfestation

No complaints were received.

### Pest Control

During the year four complaints were received of rodent infestation and five wasps' nests were reported. These were dealt with by the Rodent Operative.

### Noise

During the year two complaints were received of noise. One was due to noisy motors used in connection with refrigeration; steps were taken to baffle and this is still under consideration.

The other related to noise from a concrete products works; the owners of these works are trying all the time to reduce noise to the absolute minimum, have erected a baffle wall to assist and are considering the noise factor in their new plant. During the year noise readings were taken for purposes of comparison in the main North Street.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

All milk sold in the Borough is specially designated.

Number of dealers under Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960	...	...	13
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### Milk Sampling

During the year 27 samples of milk were taken in the Borough by the Food and Drugs Authority (Dorset County Council) for examination. All samples passed the prescribed test.

### Ice Cream

20 samples were submitted for the methylene reductase test in accordance with the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations and the following results were obtained:-

<u>Provisional Grades</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
1	25
2	4
3	1
4	Nil

### Food Inspected and Condemned

Meat at retail shops	...	4 lbs.
Canned Meat	...	Nil
Other Canned Foods	...	150 lbs.
Food unsound through failure of refrigerator	...	170 lbs.

There is no slaughterhouse in the Borough.

### Food Premises

#### (1) Number of Food Premises by Type of Business in the Area

Grocers	...	9
Greengrocers	...	5
Butchers	...	4
Bakehouses	...	2
Fish Shops	...	2
Fried Fish Shops	...	2
Sweets and Confectionery	...	10
Cafes/Restaurants	...	7
Licensed Premises (including hotels)		14

#### (2) Number of Food Premises by Type registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Manufacture of sausages and preserved food		5
Fish frying premises	...	2
Ice-cream premises	...	27

(3) Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Premises for manufacture of sausages		
and preserved food	...	10
Fish frying premises	...	2
Ice-cream premises	...	2

Inspection of Food Premises, Cafes, etc.

Regular visits are made to food premises and in general they were found to be satisfactory. In no cases were formal actions necessary. Three informal notices were served in respect of contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations and these were all ratified.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

At the end of the year the following premises were registered -

Offices	...	...	20
Retail Shops	...	...	45
Wholesale Shops/Warehouses	...	...	-
Catering establishments	...	...	7
Fuel Storage Depots	...	...	-
			<hr/>
			72
			<hr/>

All premises have received a first inspection and premises are now being revisited. 31 visits were made during the year.

The following is an analysis of the contraventions in respect of which informal notices were served.

Cleanliness	...	...	4
Other matters	...	...	15
			<hr/>
			19
			<hr/>

## HOUSING

Twelve dwellings were erected in the Borough during the year.

Number of houses inspected	...	38
Number of house inspections made	...	38
Number of informal notices served	...	10
Number of informal notices complied with	...	8
Number of statutory notices served	...	Nil
Number of houses reported under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	Nil

Action taken by the Local Authority in respect of such houses:-

(a) Demolition Orders made	...	Nil
(b) Undertakings accepted for		
(i) Closure	...	Nil
(ii) Reconditioning	...	Nil
(iii) Other Action	...	Nil
Number of houses included in clearance areas	...	Nil

### Overcrowding

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

### Housing Act, 1969

The following grants were made during the year -

Discretionary Improvement Grants	...	10
Standard Grants	...	2
Total improved to date	...	194
Qualification Certificates issued	...	38

### Housing Applications

Number of applications - (in brackets figures for 1971)

Residing in Borough area	...	128	(97)
Residing outside Borough area	...	81	(64)
Total:	...	209	(161)

### Housing Programme

	<u>Completed in 1972</u>	<u>In construction at 31.12.72.</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Houses	Nil	Nil	11
Bungalows	Nil	Nil	22
Flats	Nil	Nil	3

### New Houses

Total number erected during 1972	...	12
Number erected with State assistance		
(a) By Local Authority	...	Nil
(b) By other Bodies or Persons	...	Nil

### Houses owned by the Local Authority

	<u>Built Pre-war</u>	<u>Built since 1945</u>	<u>Total</u>
Permanent	102	227	329
Prefabricated	-	9	9



## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The Health Services and Public Health Act 1968, amended the list of notifiable diseases and the following are those which are notified now by Act of Parliament -

Cholera	Relapsing fever	Typhus
Plague	Smallpox	Food poisoning

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, consolidated with amendments all previous regulations relating to the notification and prevention of infectious disease except the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.

The diseases for which notification is now made by Regulation are -

Acute encephalitis	Infective jaundice	Scarlet fever
Acute meningitis	Leprosy	Tetanus
Acute poliomyelitis	Leptospirosis	Tuberculosis
Anoebic dysentery	Malaria	Typhoid fever
Anthrax	Measles	Whooping cough
Bacillary dysentery	Ophthalmia neonatorum	Yellow fever
Diphtheria	Paratyphoid fever	

Under the provisions of the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, the Council authorised the Medical Officer of Health generally at their meeting in November 1968 to issue any notice on their behalf in relation to any case of typhus, relapsing fever, food poisoning and food-borne infection if, in his opinion, it is immediately and urgently necessary for him to do so for the purpose of preventing the spread of infection.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease in the Borough continues to remain low. No case of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid fevers) was notified during the year.

The absence of cases of diphtheria and acute poliomyelitis can be attributed to the effective immunisation of infants and young children against these diseases. Babies are immunised with diphtheria, tetanus (lockjaw) and whooping cough vaccine during the second six months of life. A reinforcing dose against diphtheria and tetanus is given just prior to entry to school at five years, and another reinforcing dose of tetanus vaccine at twelve years old.

The scheme for immunisation against acute poliomyelitis includes all persons up to forty years of age and certain priority groups above this age likely to special risk of infection. This includes persons proceeding to areas which have a high incidence of acute poliomyelitis. Almost all immunisation against poliomyelitis is by mouth with the Sabin vaccine which is a modified live virus. The primary doses are given to babies in the second six months of life at the same time as the triple vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. A reinforcing dose is given on entry to school and again at twelve years old.

The use of measles vaccine, attenuated live virus, which first became available in 1968, is now authorised up to the age of sixteen years of age. Four cases of measles were notified in the Borough during the year as against three cases last year. Cases could be avoided if parents took more advantage of the opportunities for immunising their children against measles.

The following table shows the number of cases of measles and the number of immunisations against measles done in the Borough; also included are the numbers of live births. Vaccination against measles has altered the epidemiology of the disease which now does not show epidemicity alternate years.

	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Measles Immunisation</u>	<u>Cases of Measles</u>
1962	64	-	65
1963	61	-	29
1964	54	-	105
1965	52	-	9
1966	52	-	4
1967	83	-	65
1968	94	89	2
1969	108	42	7
1970	68	100	60
1971	75	62	3
1972	85	81	4

Routine vaccination of babies against Smallpox ceased in 1971 following advice from the Chief Medical Officer to the Department of Health and Social Security that the risk of the effects of vaccination is now greater than the risk of contracting smallpox in this country.

Rubella (German Measles) Vaccine became available in October 1970 and is offered to 13 year old girls. The vaccine, which is a live attenuated virus, is to prevent women from contracting German Measles in pregnancy when infection may lead to a handicapped child with congenital heart disease and/or deafness, blindness and mental subnormality. The injection was accepted by the majority eligible, and caused no known adverse reactions.

Scarlet fever although a mild disease now, is still notifiable. No case was notified during 1972.

Whooping cough continues to be mild in character, three cases were notified during 1972.

There was no outbreak of food poisoning in the Borough and no suspected case was notified.

Four cases of infective jaundice were notified. No source of infection was found and no contact between the cases.

Three cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. There is no doubt that the incidence of tuberculosis has been reduced considerably by the measures taken over the years. All contacts of cases of tuberculosis are investigated to pick up sources of infection and other new cases. There are no longer open sessions for persons to attend the mass miniature radiography unit for chest x-ray, as it is considered that the number of cases picked up at such sessions do not warrant the time and expense. Instead it has been made much easier for general practitioners to have their patients with chest infections x-rayed at a mobile radiography van which covers the area once a week.

At five years old school entrants have been tested for tuberculosis by the Heaf skin test. Very few positives have been found and no positive child has been found to have active tuberculosis. In view of this, skin testing of school entrants is being discontinued. At thirteen years of age all school children, whose parents consent, are tested by the Heaf test, and if negative offered vaccination against tuberculosis with B.C.G. vaccine. In the Purbeck area, 486 pupils were tested, 42 were positive, of whom 18 had had B.C.G. vaccine previously. 425 were vaccinated with B.C.G. vaccine.



At the end of 1972 there were 22 persons (14 male - 8 female) on the Wareham Borough tuberculosis register; all pulmonary tuberculosis. This compares with 25 (17 male - 8 female) with pulmonary tuberculosis and four (2 male - 2 female) with other forms of tuberculosis ten years ago.

Brucellosis in humans is not a notifiable disease but more interest is being taken in the disease now, partly because of eradication of the disease in cattle in the county. No cases were brought to my notice in the Borough during the year.

#### Vaccination and Immunisation Statistics, Wareham Borough, 1971 & 1972

	Polio-myelitis				Diphtheria		Tetanus		Whooping Cough		Measles	Rubella
	Oral		By in- jection									
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	P
1971	68	154	-	-	61	84	78	132	57	6	62	42
1972	98	183	-	-	97	91	101	153	96	3	81	43

#### Infectious Disease Notification (Corrected) Figures - 1972

Disease	Total	1st. Qtr.	2nd. Qtr.	3rd. Qtr.	4th. Qtr.	Admitted to Hospital
Whooping Cough	3	3	-	-	-	-
Measles	4	-	4	-	-	-
Infective jaundice	4	2	1	1	-	-
Tuberculosis - respiratory	3	-	-	-	3	1

#### Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during 1972 by Age Groups

Disease	Total	Age Group				
		Under 5	5 - 14	15 - 44	45 - 64	65 & over
Whooping Cough	3	3	-	-	-	-
Measles	4	4	-	-	-	-
Infective jaundice	4	-	-	-	3	1
Tuberculosis - respiratory	3	1	1	1	-	-

#### Public Health Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory Service has continued to give excellent service. The Dorchester Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. G.H. Tee, has dealt with the work for the Borough.

#### Scabies and Verminous Conditions

There were no reports under this heading.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47 (Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention to Suitable Premise.)  
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

It was not necessary to take formal action under this section of the Act during the year.



# FACTORIES ACT, 1961

## Part 1 of the Act

### 1 - INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	5	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers premises	-	-	-	-
Total	33	5	1	-

### 2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re-medied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S7)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-

## PART VIII of the Act

### OUTWORK - Sections 133 and 134

Outworkers - NIL.

